

First Reading Gen 12:1-4

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing. 'I will bless those who bless you: I will curse those who slight you. All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you. 'So Abram went as the Lord told him.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. v.22

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Second Reading 2 Tm 1:8-10

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!



Gospel Mt 17:1-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PARISH



St. John the Baptist

St John the Baptist Church 62 Bowden Street, Glenorchy, 7010
P.O. Box 41, Glenorchy, 7010
St. Monica Church 67-69 Allunga Road Chigwell, 7011
Phone No: (03) 62726363
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Parish Website: <http://cdtas.org.au/glenorchy/Home.aspx>
The Parish has been entrusted to the Salesians of Don Bosco since 2000



St. Monica

4 - 5 March 2023, 2nd Sunday of Lent - Year A

Dear Friends,

The Transfiguration is about the divinity of the man, Jesus of Nazareth. Its purpose is to strengthen Jesus in His mission to do His Father's will and to give His apostles, Peter, James and John a glimpse of the Resurrection, in view of the scandal of the cross.

Also, the apostles heard a voice from heaven say, "This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him." This confirmation of Jesus' relationship with His Heavenly Father is meant to strengthen their faith and trust in Jesus after His violent shameful death on a cross.

For Christians of all times, the Transfiguration is a glimpse of Jesus' divinity. For them too, it is meant to strengthen their faith and trust in the face of difficulties, failure and defeat that may destroy their trust in Jesus. The transfiguration is a guarantee, that cost what may, our faith is not in vain. Jesus will never let us down if we put our trust in Him.

Jesus had previously announced to all His apostles that He was destined to suffer and die on a cross and then rise again and He had said to them, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." (Lk 9:23) The apostles were mortified, bewildered and upset. They could not understand how Jesus would allow Himself to be condemned to a criminal's death on a cross. They had hoped that he would be a glorious, triumphant King and they were far from following Him to His crucifixion. Nonetheless, the Transfiguration is an anticipation of future glory even if it means that His death on the cross would be the means by which God would raise Him from the dead and in this way the risen Jesus would become the Saviour of humanity.

"For so many people, suffering is a waste of time and nothing good can be said of it. We question the very existence of God when individual suffering and the suffering of whole peoples become too much to bear.

"Where is God in the midst of this suffering?" we often ask. "Here," says Jesus with arms outstretched on the cross. Our veneration of the cross, our embrace of the wood of the cross, is our affirmation that no time is wasted in which God is served. The service of God is the sanctification of time. And, perhaps, it is when we are laid low, when we are powerless, when we have time on our hands, that the grace of God is available to us in a special way. The traditional devotion of "offering up" our suffering has a profound effect on what we have to bear.

The motto of the 11th century Carthusian Order is a very powerful one: "Stat Crux Dum Volvitur Orbis -The cross stands while the world turns" This points to the contrast between the steadfastness of the cross and the busyness of the world. Cardinal Basil Hume put this in a different way when he wrote "It is only when we contemplate the cross (in our own lives) that the cross of Jesus yields up its mysteries". He himself had his Transfiguration experience in the two short months between the diagnosis of terminal cancer and his death. When the doctors first told the Cardinal of his advanced cancer, he went straight to the hospital chapel and prayed. "I had preached so often on the seven last words of Jesus from the Cross", he said. "Now it was wonderful to find that they were such a part of me". All during that initial period of waiting for death he found, to his delight, that his prayer was amazingly sweet, full of consolation. But then, to quote him "the curtain came down, and it was back to the darkness of faith. "But I wasn't worried," he said, "because I knew what was beyond the curtain".

(ARCHBISHOP GEORGE STACK)

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

This week in the homily I would like to speak briefly about the mercy of God and that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a sacrament of mercy. May the Virgin Mary Mother of God pray to Jesus for us. (Fr Guy)

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Priest Fr Gaetano (Guy) Riolo SDB
 Pastoral Associate Sr Pamela Davis OP
 Parish Secretary Sheila Gonzales
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**PARISH DIARY
 March 2023**

- 4 Saturday**
 ●9.00am Mass-St John's
 ●6.00pm Mass-St John's
5 Sunday, 2nd Sunday of Lent - Year A
 ● 8.30am Mass-St Monica's
 ●10.00am Mass-St John's
6 Monday
 ● 9.00am Mass-St John's
7 Tuesday
 ●9.00am Mass-St John's
8 Wednesday
 ●9.00am Mass-St John's
 ●7.00pm-St John's
9 Thursday
 ●12noon at St John's
10 Friday
 ● 9.00am Mass-St John's
 ● 7.00pm Stations of the Cross at St John's
11 Saturday
 ●9.00am Mass-St John's
 ●6.00pm Mass-St John's
12 Sunday, 3rd Sunday of Lent - Year A
 ● 8.30am Mass-St Monica's
 ●10.00am Mass-St John's

Project Compassion - Second Sunday of Lent



Tereesa is a Gamilaroi woman from Western Sydney who struggled with homelessness while raising her four children. At just 16 years old, she had to leave school after falling pregnant with her first child. A single mother struggling with homelessness, Tereesa's only concern was finding stability for her children.

Seeking a better future for her family, Tereesa joined Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation's Young Mums and Bubs Group, supported by Caritas Australia. Baabayn helped Tereesa access housing and psychological support. Today, Tereesa is studying a certificate in Community Services so that she can strengthen her skills and give back to her community. Tereesa now works at Baabayn, providing support to young mothers and mentoring the next generation of young people.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow. For All Future Generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available at the table in the foyer.

St Patrick's Pilgrimage

Join Archbishop Julian Porteous for Mass following a pilgrimage in celebration of the feast of St Patrick. Pilgrims will set out from St John the Evangelist Church, Richmond to St Patrick's Church, Colebrook. This popular pilgrimage is open to all young adults between the ages of 16-35 years and will conclude with Mass at St Patrick's on Sunday afternoon.
When: Saturday 18 March - Sunday 19 March 2023
Where: Richmond - Colebrook
Cost: \$55 or Early Bird \$45 (closes 3 March 2023)
 Go to eventbrite.com.au and search 'St Patrick's Pilgrimage 2023' to register.
<https://StPatricksPilgrimage2023.eventbrite.com.au>

Syria Earthquake Relief through the Salesians of Don Bosco

If you have any enquires regarding the earthquakes impact and Salesians response please visit our website www.salesianmissionsaustralia.com.
 For direct donors supporters may leave a contribution to <https://www.givenow.com.au/salesianmissions>
 If you have any further questions, please contact Olga or Tina on 03 9377 6060 or email salmiss@salesians.org.au.

Talks by Dr Drasko Dizdar on Lent, Easter and Pentecost
 We are happy to announce that Dr Drasko Dizdar will be opening our hearts and minds to the wonders of the Seasons of Lent and Easter.

- Lent - what is it about?
 Saturday 11 March, 11am at St John's church.
- Easter to Pentecost - what is it about?
 Saturday 20 May, 11am at St John's church.

Join with Our Lord on the journey of the **Stations of the Cross**
 Every Friday in Lent, 7:00pm at St. John's



Parish 50/50 Club

What is it? A parish fundraiser for necessary emergency repairs to church and grounds. How does it work? We need 50 parishioners or friends to pay \$50, there is a raffle draw of 3 prizes: \$150, \$100 & \$50. We have 11 person who have joined. We need 39 people to complete the fundraiser. You may join by contacting Sheila, the parish secretary, at the Parish Office 62726363 or by envelopes which are available on the table at the back of the church and can be put in the basket.

Nepalotto

The person with the first supplementary number (2) to be drawn in Tattsлото on 25 February was Fred Elliott who has won \$50; and the person with the second number (27) was Sr Mary Rickards who won \$25. Thank you to all supporters, especially the unlucky ones. Another \$150 to help to support students at Don Bosco Technical School, Biratnagar, Nepal.

Footy Points Margin

Thank you to all those who have signed up to this parish fund raiser. To make it really profitable it would be good to have more people signed up. Why not give it a go? Only \$2 a week! You don't need to know anything about footy and you might win \$100! Contact Jo 0419 510 014

Please remember in your prayers our sick

Don Ambler, Fr Bob Curmi, Vince Mele, Elizabeth Drake, Marian Whyman, Marj Direen, Zofia Dzierbicki, David Smith, Mary Hinds, Fr Martin Aye Ngwe, Vickie Mackay, Alan Hinds, Peter Reynolds, Alan Brock, Philip White, Arnold Markham

Prayers for the Deceased

Sr Josepha RSJ, Kaye Brock, Angelo Pasutto, Don Fogg, Barbara Campbell, Darrell Pattmore, Paul Westcott, Peggy Smith

Eternal rest grant unto their souls O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Parish Volunteers

To meet legal requirements, all parishes must ensure all staff and applicable volunteers have required compliance checks, namely **a current Police Check as well as Working with Vulnerable People Registration**. We are reviewing the status of all these checks and you may find that we contact you to arrange to have these checks in place if you do not already have them. Please contact the parish office as soon as possible. Fr Guy Riolo

**WEEKEND MASSES
 St John's, Glenorchy**

- 6.00pm Saturday
- 10.00am Sunday
- St. Monica's, Chigwell

**WEEKDAY MASSES
 St. John's, Glenorchy**

- 9.00am Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday
- 12.00pm Thursday

ROSARY

At St. John's, Glenorchy
 ● 8.30am every Wednesday and Saturday

RECONCILIATION

At St. John's, Glenorchy
 ● 9.30am-10.00am & 5.15pm-5.45pm Saturday

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

At St. John's, Glenorchy
 ● 8.00am - 8.50am Wednesday
 ● 9:00am - 11.50am Thursday

LEGION OF MARY at St. John's, Glenorchy

● 6.45 pm Every Tuesday

ST. JOSEPH'S PRAYER GROUP

at St. John's, Glenorchy
 ● 1st Wednesday of the month at 9.30am

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP

at St. John's, Glenorchy
 ● Every Friday at 3.00pm

COUNTERS' ROSTERS

This Week:	6 March
Mary Parsissons' Team	
Next Week :	14 March
Bridget Hayde	

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Envelopes:	\$789.85
Quest Tap & Go:	\$190.00
Loose Plate	\$653.90
Direct Deposit:	\$435.00
TOTAL:	\$2,068.75
Weekly Budget: \$2500.00	
Difference:	-\$431.25